



# Montgomery County Council

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*From the Office of Council President Valerie Ervin    November 21, 2011*

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## **Council President Ervin Strongly Supports New Adventist Hospital in White Oak** Councilmember Says Facility Will Be 'The Right Fit for the County's Economic Development and Land Use Goals'

ROCKVILLE, Md., November 21, 2011—Montgomery County Council President Valerie Ervin, who represents District 5 that includes Silver Spring, Wheaton, Kensington and Takoma Park, today again stated her strong support for building a new Washington Adventist Hospital in the White Oak area near the new U.S. Food and Drug Administration campus.

Council President Ervin said the new hospital, which will be relocated from its current aging campus in Takoma Park, will be an important element spurring the development for the east side of Montgomery County along the Route 29 Corridor.

"I believe that Washington Adventist Hospital's Vision for Expanded Access initiative is the right fit for the County's economic development and land use goals," said Council President Ervin. "We know that Washington Adventist's history as a leader in ensuring access to care for all, as well as its commitment to improving the health and wellness of the community, is a vital asset for Montgomery County."

Council President Ervin said Washington Adventist Hospital is a valued and respected health care facility that provides health, wellness, and education programs to residents the community. She said the relocation of the hospital, along with Adventist's commitment to retain the Takoma Park campus to provide primary and urgent care and other health related services, will improve health care delivery for all County residents.

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It is expected that the new U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) campus will employ 9,000 to 11,000 workers. The relocated Washington Adventist Hospital would bring an additional 3,000 workers to the area. Other major employers in the area include Kaiser Permanente, Children's Hospital and 3M Health Information Services.

"Given Montgomery County's life science assets, academic institutions and educated workforce, the County Council is committed to investing in technology and innovation that will expand the economic pie for everyone by creating new opportunities in critical markets," she said. "White Oak and the Route 29 Corridor are prime examples of areas that will help shape the County's future. This area is primed to become an innovation center for Montgomery County."

A 2001 study prepared by Dr. Stephen Fuller on Adventist Hospital noted that the new hospital construction will generate \$553 million for the State's economy, with the project supporting approximately 2,900 construction jobs for residents. In addition, Statewide economic impacts of post-construction operating investments made by Adventist will contribute nearly \$631 million to the economy and support approximately 5,000 jobs for residents with earning totaling \$211 million annually.

"Locating the hospital next to the FDA is an opportunity to provide new and innovative health care services," said Council President Ervin. "The potential for this synergistic economic development will help to ensure the long-term fiscal health of the County."

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